(a) the number of people to whom Government has set target to provide employment during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana;

(b) the details of number of people who have benefited so far under this scheme, year-wise;

(c) whether the target is likely to be achieved; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) was in operation during 2007-2008 only of Eleventh Five Year Plan period. 2.80 lakh beneficiaries have been assisted against the target of 2.75 lakh during 2007-2008 under this scheme. A new more attractive Credit Linked subsidy programme called Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) has been launched with effect from August, 2008 by merging the two schemes namely PMRY and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) that were in operation till 31.03.2008 for generation of employment opportunities through establishment of micro enterprises.

Credit rating to MSMEs

3344. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister's office has constituted a task force to look into the problems faced by MSMEs;

(b) if so, whether the said task force has given any recommendations in respect of more MSMEs getting credit rating in a time bound programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) A Task Force has been constituted under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister to address the issues of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector, including those relating to credit. The Task Force has held a series of meetings to deliberate on the issues/problems of the sector with all the stakeholders and is likely to submit its Report shortly.

Sale of traditional items by Khadi Bhavans

3345. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether only traditional items are procured and sold by Khadi Bhavans run by Khadi and Village Industries Commission, or modifications in designs, raw material, expertise, etc. are done from time to time;

(b) the percentage of utilization of machines during the production-process by producing units dedicated to KVIC; and

(c) the details of measures adopted by KVIC for enhancement of productivity and competitiveness of khadi industry, artisans, weavers, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) facilitates the marketing of the products produced by the khadi and village industry (KVI) institutions enlisted with KVIC and State Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) through its Departmental Bhawans/sales outlets. These outlets serve as important links between the rural artisans producing a variety of products and the consumers including those living in urban areas in a regular way by making available the exclusive KVI items (including traditional items) for all age groups of customers under one roof.

To improve quality and modify designs in KVI products, KVIC has taken a number of steps such as: creation of brands namely 'Khadi', 'Sarvodaya' and 'Desi Aahar' for products, making available quality raw materials for khadi production through its Central Sliver Plants, implementation of the Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) scheme for improved design and packaging of products, development of standard codes in Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Industrialisation (MGIRI) for testing of khadi, tie-up arrangements with the National Institute of Design (MID), Ahmedabad, National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) and National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) for developing better designs, fashions, etc. KVIC has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Textiles Committee (TC) to make available their laboratory infrastructure for checking quality of Khadi products.

(b) Khadi activities are mainly undertaken by the spinners and weavers who usually work from their dwelling units using simple tools and technology without power and within the time available with them alongwith other livelihood/household activities. However, to provide good quality of the yarn sliver/rovings to the khadi institutions, appropriate machines are used in the sliver plants of KVIC. Equipments/machineries are also utilised by khadi institutions as common utility facilities to enhance production capacity. As far as VI sector is concerned, goods are produced with or without use of electricity by the units set up under erstwhile Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and the present Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

(c) In order to promote khadi, the Union Government through KVIC has introduced three new schemes recently namely, 'Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans' for providing assistance for construction of worksheds for better work environment and the 'Scheme for enhancing productivity

& competitiveness of Khadi Industries and Artisans' to assist 200 khadi institutions to make khadi industry competitive with more market driven and profitable production by replacement of obsolete and old machinery and equipment and 'Strengthening of Infrastructure of existing Weak Khadi Institutions and Assistance for Marketing Infrastructure' which envisages renovation of selected 30 khadi sales outlets and providing assistance for strengthening of infrastructure of existing 100 weak selected khadi institutions.

In addition, the Government through KVIC implements Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) scheme for providing bank loans to khadi and polyvastra units at subsidized rates of interest, Janashree Bima Yojana (JBY) to provide insurance to khadi artisans and weavers, Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) for development of clusters in khadi, village industries and coir sectors, Research & Development and other support services, *viz.*, marketing, export promotion, exhibitions at district, State, zonal & national level, design facility, brand building, etc.

Promotion of MSMEs by public sector undertakings

3346. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

SHRI SREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether guidelines have been given to public sector undertakings to promote small industries and items are also prescribed;

(b) whether any systematic network or offices have been started in different States to receive these orders; and

(c) the amount of orders received from large public sector undertakings of Chhattisgarh, along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) To promote Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs), the Government guidelines provides for extending various facilities / benefits like issue of tender sets free of cost, exemption from payment of earnest money, etc., by the Government agencies (including public sector undertakings) to MSEs registered with National Small Industries Corporation under its Single Point Registration Scheme. In addition, 358 items are reserved for exclusive purchase from MSEs by the Government agencies. Since orders are placed directly by public sector undertakings for procurement from MSEs, no network /offices exist for receiving these orders. Further, the amount of orders received, State-wise, by the MSEs from public sector undertakings is not maintained centrally.

Credit rating agencies

3347. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state: